



County of San Diego  
Department of Environmental Health



## **FIRE RECOVERY Disposal of Spoiled Food**

The following guidance is provided on the disposal of spoiled food after power has been disrupted.

**Homeowners:** Double bag the spoiled food and dispose with the garbage. Remove the garbage as soon as possible to prevent undesirable odors and insect or rodent infestations. Store sealed trash bags in trash cans with tight fitting lids or in watertight dumpsters.

**Commercial Food Facilities:** Food facilities with small quantities of waste food can double bag the spoiled food and dispose in a watertight dumpster. If a large quantity of waste food is involved, the business should contact their disposal company/waste hauler to coordinate disposal efforts at the landfill. Supplemental dumpsters or disposal service may be needed for the business.

**DO NOT START ANY CLEAN UP IN THE  
UNINCORPORATED AREA OF THE COUNTY UNTIL YOU HAVE BEEN  
CLEARED BY A  
COUNTY DAMAGE ASSESSMENT TEAM.  
YOU COULD JEOPARDIZE YOUR FEMA  
OR INSURANCE CLAIMS.**

**TO CHECK ON YOUR ASSESSMENT CALL (866) 402-6044.**